

MU-JHU CARE LTD – MU-JHU RESEARCH COLLABORATION

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MTN Regional Meeting
Cape Town South Africa
21 – 24 May, 2007

Site



Site



Location

- MU-JHU Care Ltd -MU-JHU Research Collaboration is located at upper Mulago hill road in Mulago hospital in Kampala city with a population of 1.5-2m people accessible to potential participants
- It is central to the 3-4 districts (Kampala, Wakiso, Mukono, Mpigi) that form the catchment area
- Low Socio-economic status people are the majority of anticipated study population
- Potential participants will have access to the medical care in the MU-JHU clinic and Mulago national referral hospital.
- MU-JHU has established referral linkages to Mulago hospital, TASO, MJAP, JCRC, STD clinic.

Location

- Infrastructure - 2 blocks of buildings
 - 2 standby generators
 - Adequate office/clinic space
- Personnel – skilled PIs, counsellors, Clinicians, nurses, support staff
- Laboratory – accredited by the College of American Pathologists (CAP) – 1 of only 3 in Africa

Recruitment of high risk women

- Prior recruitment efforts for trials targeting high risk women have been very successful at the site.
- Use of peer leaders has been a success.
- Other strategies to maximize recruitment of high risk women for future trials include:
 - Community sensitization about research
 - Continued training for counselors in client recruitment techniques

Community Involvement

- There are members of the African Microbicide Advocacy Group currently working in Kampala with the high risk target population
- Levels of community engagement so far at site: - we have an established CAB and it has been engaged in informal discussions of microbicide and female condom acceptability
- Challenges with engagement process:-
 - Condom use is unacceptable to many
 - Being on the CAB is time consuming yet not fully compensated
- Community is supportive of research including the political leaders at the national level

Retention

- Major challenge with study retention: - some participants don't like to be home visited.
- Three key lessons learned from previous trials in maximizing study retention:
 - Use skilled counselors and other staff
 - Engage home visitors to track the clients and have a retention plan
 - Incorporating holistic care for participants in research

Product Adherence

- Major challenges with product & condom adherence include:
 - Failure to convince the male partner to use male condom
 - Low acceptability especially for the female condom
 - Will participants give an accurate report about product use ?

Product Adherence Cont'd

- Three key lessons learned from previous trial experience in addressing adherence problems:
 - Participants must fully understand the protocol requirements
 - Staff must also fully understand the protocol
 - There is a need for a clear plan for participant follow up and assessing product adherence

Site Team



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